IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace paragraph [0030] of the original specification with the following paragraph showing changes.

[0030] First, the short term speech spectrum of the speech frame is normalized, with a mean equal to zero dB. Then, a battery of tests is performed to detect the presence of two close low-frequency formants. If we determine the following parameters,

σ_1 : The relative magnitude of the first estimated formant,

σ_2 : The relative magnitude of the second estimated formant,

λ_1 : Index in the frequency axis (1...128) of the first estimated formant,

λ_2 : Index in the frequency axis (1...128) of the second ~~first~~ estimated formant,

a flag signaling the presence of two close low-frequency formants is raised if the following conditions are met:

1. $\sigma_1 \geq \tau_1$, $\sigma_2 \geq \tau_2$ and $(\sigma_1 - \sigma_2) \leq \tau$,
2. $\lambda_1 \geq \lambda_{min}$ and $\lambda_1 \leq \lambda_{max}$,
3. $(\lambda_2 - \lambda_1) \geq \delta_{min}$ and $(\lambda_2 - \lambda_1) \leq \delta_{max}$.